

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Appl. No. : 10/685,004
Applicant : Zaidi et al.
Filed : October 15, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2818
Examiner : Ho, Tu Tu V.
Confirmation No. : 4281
Docket No. : 3000.0064C
Customer No. : 054500
Title : Mask and Method for Using the Mask in
Lithographic Processing

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)

Pursuant to the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to disclose information which may be material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, the Applicant(s) would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO/SB/08). In accordance with this duty of disclosure, Applicant(s) hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98. The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each document cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A is enclosed.
- ☒ The subject Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without copies of the listed U.S. Patents and/or U.S. patent application publications pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for applications filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed herewith.
- ☐ No copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are being provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) because the publications were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior Application Serial No. _____ to which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120.

- ☒ Publication(s) listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A were cited in a foreign search or examination report in counterpart PCT application no. PCT/EP2004/011676 and mailed on November 7, 2005.
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) _____. Pursuant to §609 of the M.P.E.P., Applicant submits the attached foreign search or examination report, which cites such non-English language publication(s).
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) _____. English language publication _____ (copy enclosed) claims priority from this non-English publication.
- ☐ Enclosed is an explanation of non-English publication(s) _____ for which an English translation is not available.
- ☐ Enclosed is an English translation of non-English publication(s) _____ cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.
- ☐ Enclosed is a copy of pending patent Application Serial No. _____.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing of:

- ☐ a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113;
- ☐ a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311; or
- ☒ an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) also enclosed is:

- ☐ Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) in the amount of \$180.00; or
- ☒ Statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):
- ☒ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement cited herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37

C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the above-noted information and return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to the undersigned.

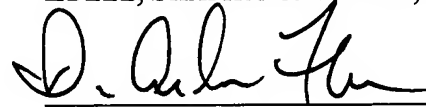
Dated: November 29, 2005

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